

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20. (Canceled)

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A cable distribution system, comprising:

a headend ~~receptive of~~ configured to receive signals from a plurality of video sources, ~~capable of multiplexing and being configured to multiplex~~ selected ones of the signals ~~being multiplexed~~ together to create one or more multiplexed channel signals;

a plurality of service modules associated with the headend, each service module receiving one or more of the multiplexed channel signals; and ~~providing it to each of a plurality of receiver/decoders within each service module that each receive/decode a selected video channel and provide the video channel at a selected output frequency unrelated to the conventional cable frequency normally associated with the selected video channel, each video channel received/decoded by a given service module being sent to the interface unit corresponding to that receiver/decoder; and~~

~~a plurality of interface units associated with each service module, each interface unit being located at a customer location, each interface unit receptive of the video channel and providing same to a video displaying apparatus.~~

one or more receiver/decoders within each service module, the one or more receiver/decoders configured to receive the one or more multiplexed channel signals, wherein each receiver/decoder is configured to select one or more, but not all, of the selected ones of the signals from one or more of the multiplexed channel signals as video channels, and further configured to provide the video channels to an interface unit located at a customer location, the interface unit corresponding to the receiver/decoder that received/decoded the video channels, and, wherein each video channel in the subset of video channels is provided at an output frequency unrelated to a cable frequency normally associated with the video channel.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, comprising a plurality of interface units, wherein one or more of the plurality of interface units are each

~~separately connected to one of the plurality of service modules wherein the interface units are arranged in a home-run relationship with respect to their respective service modules.~~

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, wherein the interface units are arranged in a loop through relationship with respect to their respective service modules and wherein the selected output frequency of each receiver/decoder in a given service module is different from each other, each of the video channels received/decoded by a given service module being combined together into a single signal and further wherein each interface unit is configured to receive ~~receptive of~~ the single signal from the service module, the interface unit ~~providing~~ configured to provide only a selected one of the video channels in the single signal to ~~a~~ the video displaying apparatus.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, wherein the headend is a local headend located in a building or set of buildings where the customer locations are.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 24, further including a master regional headend located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the master regional headend configured to provide ~~providing~~ video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 26-27. (Cancelled)

Claim 28. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, wherein each interface unit does not include a frequency converter.

Claim 29. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, wherein each service module ~~utilizes~~ is configured to utilize the same predetermined frequencies as each other service module.

Claim 30. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 21, wherein each interface unit ~~passes~~ is configured to pass information, including channel selection information, back upstream to its associated service module ~~that includes channel selection information.~~

Claim 31-33. (Cancelled)

Claim 34. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system, comprising:

a headend configured to receive signals from a plurality of video sources, and being configured to multiplex selected ones of the signals to create one or more multiplexed channel signals;

a plurality of service modules associated with the headend, each service module associated with a plurality of customers and configured to receive one or more of the multiplexed channel signals; and

one or more receiver/decoders within each service module, each receiver/decoder being configured to:

select from the one or more multiplexed channel signals, one or more, but not all, of the selected ones of the signals as one or more video channels; and

provide each video channel to an interface unit, wherein the interface unit is located at a customer location, and is associated with one or more of the receiver/decoders, and wherein each video channel is:

provided at a predetermined output frequency unrelated to a cable frequency normally associated with each video channel, wherein the predetermined output frequency is different from predetermined output frequencies of other receiver/decoders in any one service module; and

combined with other video channels of any one service module into a single signal.

~~a headend receptive of signals from a plurality of video sources, selected ones of the signals being multiplexed together to create one or more multiplexed channel signals;~~

~~a plurality of service modules associated with the headend, each service module receiving one or more of the multiplexed channel signals and providing it to each of a plurality of receiver/decoders within each service module that each receive/decode a selected video channel and provide the video channel at a selected output frequency unrelated to the conventional cable frequency normally associated with the selected video channel, the selected output frequency of each receiver/decoder in a given service module being different from each other, each of the video channels received/decoded by a given service module being combined together into a single signal; and~~

~~a plurality of interface units associated with each service module, each interface unit being located at a customer location, each interface unit receptive of the single signal from the service module, the interface unit providing only one of the video channels in the single signal to a video displaying apparatus.~~

Claim 35. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein the headend is a local headend located in a building or set of buildings where the customer locations are.

Claim 36. (Currently amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 35, further including a master regional headend located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the master regional headend providing configured to provide video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 37. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 35, wherein the plurality of service modules are dispersed located at differing locations throughout the building or set of buildings, ~~there being wherein~~ at least one service module ~~for~~ is located on each floor of the building or set of buildings.

Claim 38-40. (Cancelled)

Claim 41. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein each interface unit does not include a frequency converter.

Claim 42. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein each service module utilizes the same predetermined frequencies as each other service module.

Claim 43. (Previously presented) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein the interface module passes information back upstream to its associated service module that includes channel selection information.

Claim 44. (New) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 24, wherein the headend is located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the headend configured to provide video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 45. (New) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 24, wherein the headend is a local headend located in a building or set of buildings where the customer locations are; and further including a second headend located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the second headend configured to provide video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 46. (New) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein the headend is located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the headend configured to provide video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 47. (New) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, wherein the headend is a local headend located in a building or set of buildings where the customer locations are; and further including a master headend located at a location remote from the building or set of buildings, the master headend configured to provide video channels at selected frequencies to the local headend.

Claim 48. (New) A cable distribution system as defined in claim 34, further including a separate fixed frequency bandpass filter located at each customer location for each interface unit, the bandpass filter configured to substantially prevent video channels other than the selected video channel associated with that interface unit to pass through to the interface unit.